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Editors of The Spectator

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SPECIAL

Robert F. Kennedy Edition



SEN. ROBERT KENNEDY AT S. U., 1966

A large, quiet crowd of students and faculty gathered in the Chieftain lounge yesterday to pay tribute to a man who fought hard for the principles in which he believed—and for which he ultimately died.

A congregation of about 250 crowded into the lounge to participate in a concelebrated Mass for Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, who died yesterday morning of a head wound caused by the bullet of a political assassin.

Principle celebrant of the Mass was the Very Rev. John A. Fitterer, S.J., president of S.U. The four others were Fr. Joseph Maguire, S.J., University chaplain; Fr. John Koehler, S.J., mathematics department; Fr. John Warner, S.J., assistant chaplain, and Fr. Frank Costello, S.J., head of the political science department.

THE DEATH of Kennedy caused a second ripple of grief on a campus already shocked by the news of the Senator's wounding early Wednesday morning after a victory speech in Los Angeles. He had just won the California Democratic primary.

The first news spread quickly through the dorms, passed from room to room by students who had been startled out of their late-night study by the first radio and television reports. In Bellarmine Hall, pajamaed coeds gathered in the few rooms which had television.

At The Spectator, the Associated Press teletype, silent between primary returns, chattered twice, hesitantly, then began to pour out the tragic story that would keep Americans in fearful suspense for 24 hours.

THROUGHOUT Wednesday, students kept one eye on their final exam notes, and the other on the struggle of a team of brain surgeons trying to save Kennedy's life. When their efforts failed, the wave of sorrow which washed over the campus was almost overwhelming.

It was sorrow for a man, to be sure, and the ideas which earned him the hatred of the assassin, but it was also a sorrow, mingled with shame, for Americans as a people.

"FOR THE third time in five years," Fr. William Le Roux, S.J., head of S.U.'s Theology department, told the mourners at the commemorative Mass, "we have come together to say Mass in this room for a public figure who has been shot down by the violent bullets of a deranged assassin."

Some of the congregation, faculty and older students, had vivid memories of gathering in grief and sorrow in 1963, when President John F. Kennedy was slain in Dallas. The temporary altar was rolled out once more, earlier this year, when Dr. Martin Luther King died violently in Memphis.

A QUESTION lay, like a pall, over the campus and over the nation. Everywhere, student and laborer, policeman and cleric, turned to the neighbor in anguish to ask, "What's wrong with us?"

"This is the lesson we have to learn from this affair," Fr. Le Roux said. "We have many great things in this society; the Peace Corps, Vista, the poverty program and others. But we need something more basic. We should realize that these are only surface things. We have to get to the root."

"...receive the soul of y



Campus Political Leaders View Nation as Violent, Sick Society

By MARY ANN FRUSHOUR

Campus representatives of the major political candidates are decrying the violence of American society while they wait to see what course of action the larger political organizations will follow.

Mike Eagan, co-chairman of the students for Kennedy, said that he was "disgusted and appalled by the society in which violence seems an almost necessary component." He cited the constant show of violence on the news media and the toys given to children as demonstrating that "ours is an innately violent society."

EAGAN, professing to be still in the initial shock of the event,

was bitter about the violent deaths suffered by those who seek a peaceful society.

As for the political situation, Eagan said that a talk with Kennedy headquarters this morning revealed that there have been no decisions on the state level about support of other candidates.

HOWEVER, Eagan said that he personally will support Senator Eugene McCarthy, but doubts if he will actively work for him. The students for Kennedy, he said, "have seen their last hope, their last alternative taken away."

Young Democrat leader Jim Dwyer says that Kennedy supporters are in a dilemma: "sup-

port Hubert Humphrey and win, or support Eugene McCarthy and stay with our principles." He said that action would have to wait for the "organization in toto to decide."

"I BELIEVE in another man," said Craig Saran, McCarthy student leader, "but Kennedy was a great man." He said that after hearing the news of the shooting, "we didn't care who won in California."

Saran asked, "What's wrong with this country if this can happen — Medgar Evers, John Kennedy, Martin Luther King and now Robert Kennedy. This country is sick."

He said that all political activities have been stopped and that he could not predict how the assassination would affect the political fortunes of McCarthy. "I've decided to stop talking politics," Saran said. "It doesn't make much difference now."

Gun Control Bill Passed by House

WASHINGTON (AP) The House completed congressional action Thursday on a many faceted crime-control bill which includes a ban on mail-order sales of handguns. But even as it acted President Johnson asked for much tighter curbs on the traffic in firearms.

Both actions came as a response to the murder of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy in Los Angeles.

Johnson urged restoration of two provisions originally asked for: "I urge the Congress to make it unlawful to sell rifles and shotguns—as well as handguns—to persons who are too young to bear the terrible responsibility that is placed in the hands of a gun owner."

He further urged that "The Congress make it unlawful to sell rifles and shotguns—as well as handguns—in one state to residents of another."

JOHNSON told Congress he is also asking the governors of the states "immediately and comprehensively to review their gun laws and to amend them where necessary to fully protect citizens of their states from deadly weapons in dangerous hands."

ABOUT 150 persons picketed the headquarters of the National Rifle Association, a group opposing gun controls. "Disarm the NRA" said one of the placards. The protest was organized by labor, congressional, and civil rights groups.

Student Reaction:

RFK's Death Evokes

By MARY ANN FRUSHOUR

"Shock," "disbelief," "anger," "this country's going to hell," were typical student reactions to the assassination of Senator Robert Kennedy.

"I had to quit watching TV," said Joe Zavaglia, "it was getting to me." George Burrows, a Nixon supporter, said, "It's tragic to see such potential shot down." "I feel as if something very close has been taken away," said Ruth Puckett.

THE KENNEDY family was uppermost in the minds of many. Tim Culbert said, "Why kill a father of ten?" "A father can never be replaced," said a girl with tears in her eyes.

A group of Kennedy supporters who worked for him in Oregon said they felt "lost." "It's hard to support McCarthy after working in Oregon," said Karen Sorensen. "But can we compromise our principles and support Humphrey? It's individual choice now."

SHE ADDED that a lot of supporters of the late senator would probably end up by "not voting at all." Another supporter, Mary Ann Serocki, said that she would support McCarthy, but Marie

Legaz, another Kennedy worker, said vehemently, "McCarthy isn't good enough. I put all my faith in Kennedy; now I'll have to wait and see if any candidates change their positions after the senator's death."

Students divided on the question of whether this latest assassination reflected an unhealthy American society or simply the work of a deranged individual.

GREG Lundquist said "Something is wrong if people can't run for office without being shot." Kerry Sullivan noted that with three assassinations in five years, "it's becoming a precedent, and shows a lack of regard for human dignity and respect."

American society was seen as "unfeeling" by Peter Poole. "People will forget all about this soon, and go back to watching people getting shot on TV and teach this coldness to their children."

FOR SOME students, the nation appears eroded in values or as flimsy as a house of cards. Brenda Carpio said, "It shows that the country doesn't have much to go by now." "We seem to murder all men standing for

Violent U.S. Society Triggers Assassins

By LYNNE BERRY

In the year of Our Lord, 1968, people still are using guns and violence to solve their problems. Though we live in a modern so-called civilized society, we still riot and kill.

As the latest chapter in the book "Profiles in Courage" was written Tuesday night, Americans began asking themselves, "What is wrong?" Though it is true that all Americans did not pull the triggers which killed John F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King and Robert F. Kennedy, the question remains, "How has our society affected these killers?"

SEVERAL American religious leaders and prominent psychiatrists across the nation were interviewed by the Associated Press yesterday.

"Our people must be disarmed from the mentality of violence as well as from the instruments (which can cause it)," said Archbishop Iakovos, head of the Greek Orthodox Church. He continued, "The modern rash of violence is symptomatic of our society, disregard for the principles in which it allegedly believes and shows a schizophrenic contradiction between our normal beliefs and acts."

The president of Jesuit Woodstock College in Maryland, Fr. Avery Dulles, S.J., feels that "the crushing burden of our enormously complex social structures produces an inner tension and a sense of helplessness that makes people feel threatened and they react violently."

RABBI DR. Abraham Heschel, a noted British scholar, said that "We've lost the sense of sanctity

of life; we've surrendered our religious traditions for a cheap self-regulating attitude which assumes it has no need of higher laws. It's a conspiracy of all of us. We've all failed."

"The populace as a whole is conditioned to expect violence," stated Dr. John Spiegel, director of the Center for the Study of Violence at Brandeis University. "The pattern was set with Lincoln; it always seems to be with a gun," he continued.

Dr. Thaddeus Kostrubala, a member of the American Psychiatric Association's Task Force on Aggression and Violence, proposes that violence was not only common in the Old West but came with the immigrants from the Old World. "We arrived here by way of revolution," Kostrubala pointed out.

NEW YORK psychiatrist, Dr. David Abrahamsen, specialist in criminal cases, said that "frustration is the wet nurse of violence. Public figures are symbols of what America stands for. They become authority figures and as such have to be killed by those who feel frustrated by authority."

He continued by saying that "Americans don't like violence—they love it. Look at how many people flocked to see Bonnie and Clyde."

And so the question remains for American citizens to answer. Is it something in our society that triggers the fury of a fanatic's bullet? What is wrong?

To Mrs. Kennedy—

I have sent the following telegram to Mrs. Ethel Kennedy from all of us:

"The Masses and prayers of our students and faculty at Seattle University are with you in this tragic hour. We have just offered Mass for Senator Kennedy's soul and your intentions.

"I hope the lesson we can all learn from this added tragedy in our 1968 chronicle of sad and civil disobedience is that law and order and kindness to our neighbor are for every one of us Americans, black, white, red, yellow or brown; for rich, middle class and poor; for the educated and uneducated; for the academic community and society as a whole; for each and every American citizen at home and abroad.

"Without this respect and responsibility our cherished rights and freedoms will suffer, and the great American dream will disappear from this earth to become an historical curiosity for future scholars of other lands. God forbid that this nation should merit such a fate because of the ignorance and irresponsibility of the few.

"May the soul of a great American rest in eternal peace. This is our prayer today for Senator Robert Kennedy."

John A. Fitterer, S.J.

your servant, Robert..."



kes Shock, Fear, Anger

an ideal," said Joel Miller. And in disillusionment, Mike Stapleton said, "This country's going to hell, internally and externally."

A world-wide view was taken by Paul Schwaighart. "This country's going to have to stand alone; we're losing all our allies. I don't know if we can do it."

A FEELING of helplessness filled those who felt a national sickness. Schwaighart said, "What can one individual do, yet it's individuals who cause all the problems."

For other students, the disaster was simply the work of an individual — a deranged man, who as a foreigner, cannot be seen to represent American society.

ZAVAGLIA said, "The killer wasn't an American, you can't blame the whole society." Bur-

rows said, "The act can't be equated with moral values; it was not the act of a nation." Jerry Dolan stressed, "You can't condemn society for the act of one man."

A need was seen for gun control, however, so that individuals with lawless tendencies are not given a free trigger finger. Larry Inman said that lawless acts are an inherent problem in a democratic society, but "the means of control are at hand. We must allow people to be free and yet to be responsible."

This latest tragedy to the Kennedy family struck with less force than the death of President Kennedy. Shock was diluted by Kennedy's lingering, by the awakening to the news of death rather than seeing it happen before one's eyes. Yet despite the lack of tears, there is a fearful reflection on the event which promises a deep scar on the national psyche.



THE SPECTATOR

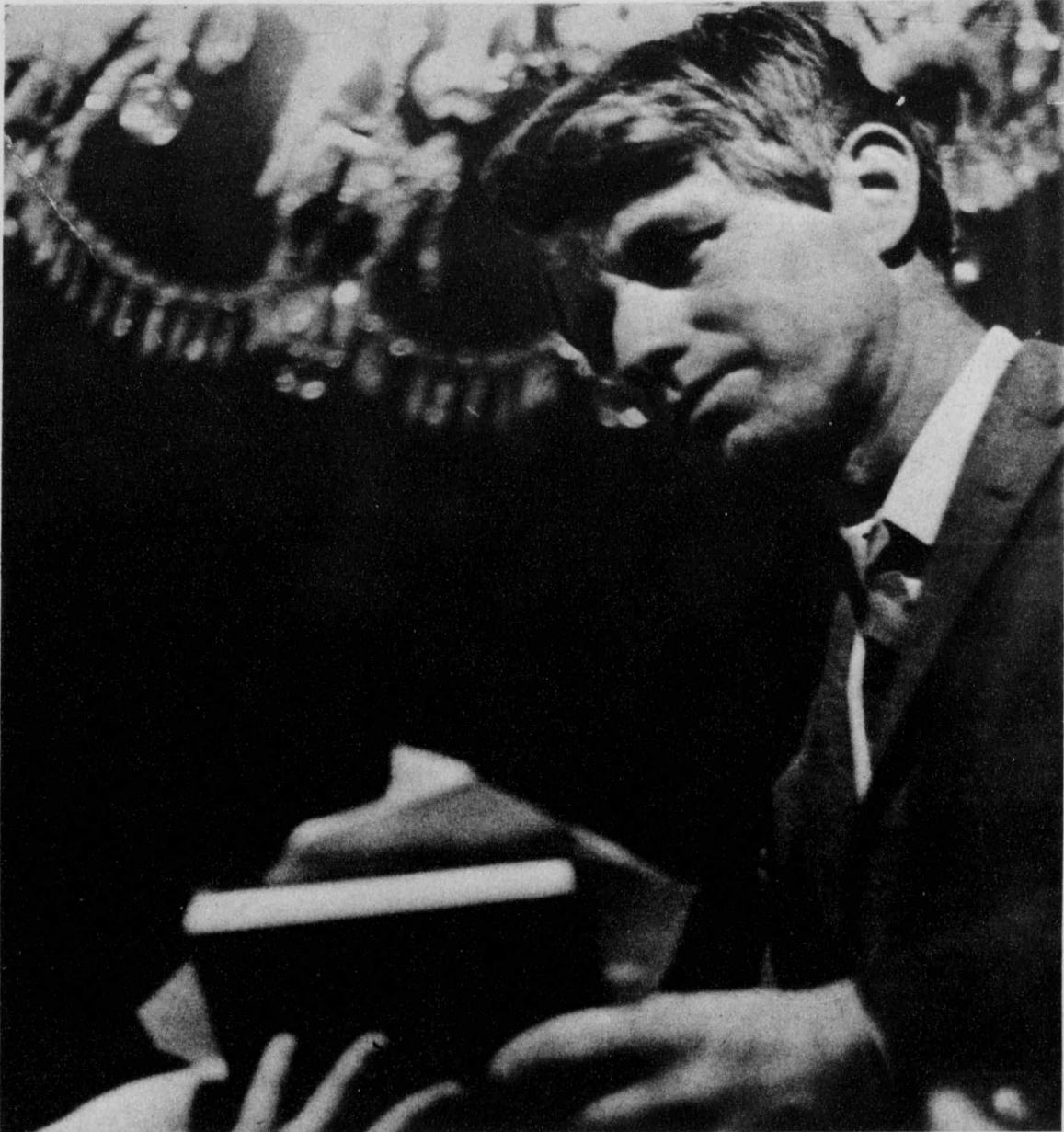
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The last extra edition of *The Spectator* was five years ago, at the death of President John F. Kennedy. It is a tragic irony that this one should record the similar death of his brother. The staff of this newspaper expresses their deepest sorrow and sympathy to the family of Senator Robert Kennedy in their hour of unbearable tragedy.

Since *The Spectator* had already shut down for the year when news of the Senator's death came through, special thanks are due to the hastily-assembled crew which helped publish this edition. They included Lynne Berry and Mary Ann Frushour, both already graduated, and an incoming freshman, Katie Garvey.

Others were Pat Curran, Mike Palandri, Dennis Williams, Don Conrard, Brian Parrott, Judy Fery, and Tom Swint.



Stark Senatorial Slaying Stuns Seattle Scholars

By PAT CURRAN

Tuesday night, as most of those connected with S.U. prepared for final tests, Sen. Robert Kennedy relished his final triumph and then unknowingly met his final confrontation.

Several of the University faculty were up when the news of the assassination began to monopolize the television screen. Like all those who were awake at that hour, academic worries quickly vanished in the concern over the senator.

FR. JOSEPH Maguire, S.J., university chaplain, "sat there stunned in front of the screen." Viewing the set with Fr. Maguire, who is a floor moderator in *Campion*, were fully half of the students on his floor. "We said prayers as we watched. I finally went to bed and when I awoke in the morning, three students were still in front of the set."

Other faculty members were hypnotized and horrified as they viewed the events through the night. Mr. Albert Mann of the history department who persevered with the tragedy until 4:45 a.m., experienced a numbing sensation. "It was as unreal as seeing a drama. First the shooting, then the individual panic and the rush of the ambulances slowly sunk in."

Fr. Gerard Steckler, S.J., was heading to shower when a fellow Jesuit broke the news. His immediate reaction was "so it's happened again."

THE FACULTY expressed strong opinions on whether society needs a thorough cleansing and whether such outrages will happen again. Fr. Steckler admits that, "I am not sanguine enough to think we can change society that much. Violence is an historical concomitant of the American experience."

The three historians interviewed dismissed scatter-shot indictments of American society as "ridiculous but inevitable."

Dr. George Flynn stated that "assuming this is an act of a unique psychopath, there is no room for remedial action. The individual neurotic cannot be legislated into sanity."

HISTORIAN Mann responded to a charge by Arthur Schlesinger that American society was neurotic. "We are as frightening as anybody else but not totally sick. Schlesinger had an axe to grind about the Vietnam war and so he condemned society." Mann claims that the Schlesinger statement not only was inaccurate; it also was disrespectful.

"It was as if Schlesinger said to the Kennedys,

'Pardon me while I borrow your tragedy for my own purposes.'"

One who reacted positively to the tragedy was President Lyndon Johnson, calling for a commission on violence. This struck some faculty members as irrelevant.

Mr. George Marinoni, a French professor and native of France, questions the commission's worth. "So what if there is a commission again?" he asks. Marinoni believes that the failure of the Warren Commission, established after the death of John Kennedy, to eradicate conspiratorial theories, coupled with the shooting of Robert Kennedy, will cause foreigners to revive lagging fears of a plot.

"Especially in France, doubts about the U.S. government and its possible complicity in the events will be prominent."

DOUBTS ABOUT the societal meaning of increasingly frequent assassination run parallel to uncertainty about the immediate and long-term political future of American society.

Albert Mann sees incalculable effects on the political system, especially on the young and the blacks. Flynn further extrapolates the possible political effect on the youthful liberals.

"A young idealist who looked to the two Kennedys and to Martin Luther King might believe there exists a conspiracy against the liberals promoting social justice."

POLITICAL scientist Dr. Gerard Rutan wonders whether the Kennedy forces will now unite behind Sen. Eugene McCarthy to obtain social justice through an agreement on political issues. "Kennedy supporters are caught in a hiatus. They dislike Vice President Hubert Humphrey on issues and dislike McCarthy because of personal bitterness developing in the past weeks."

Dr. Rutan predicts that a number of Kennedyites will return to the structure of the Democratic party. "However, there are 80 active days before the convention and many votes are adrift." The question is, who will gather them up?

With a last gathering of thoughts, most of which are momentarily adrift, a comparison made by Albert Mann lodges in the memory. "In a mystery one cares about 'whodunit' and forgets the corpse. The Kennedy assassination focused all the attention and anguish on the corpse."

The puzzle of the murderer's identity—be it a psychopath or a society, everyone or only one—cannot be delineated. One's only certainties are that the deed is done, the corpse will decay and our society's progressive evolution will be slowed.

Life Was Wild When Bobby Came



Kennedy's S.U. Visit Recalled

By BRIAN PARROTT

Senator Robert F. Kennedy was more than just a figure in the news to many of S.U.'s students, faculty and guests, be-

cause he visited this campus only 19 months ago.

In that brief visit, he talked to some 3,500 people and answered questions about juvenile crime,

the draft, the U.S. role in rebuilding Vietnam after the war, the supply of blood to North Vietnamese.

RFK ASKED some questions too. He sought student opinion, calling for a show of hands on support of continuing draft deferments, escalation of the war in Vietnam, the invitation of China to a Geneva peace conference.

Those were the things he answered and queried then. Now he is dead. Regardless of the solutions and outcome of some of those topics, the young Senator from New York made a comment that certainly has relevance one and a half years later.

After reminding the students of the challenge issued by his late brother, President John F. Kennedy, that Americans live up to their potential in dealing with the economic, social and racial problems of our age, the Senator reflected on the need for commitment in a world in which "we'll have to do better."



Fear Reflex Common Response to Slaying

The foreign reaction to the murder of Senator Robert Kennedy focused not on the loss of the man but the meaning of his violent death, seeing in this assassination dire warnings for the future of America and the world.

A close friend of the Kennedys, Lord Harlech, said in England, "Violence in the United States has become a world scandal." A Belgian said, "Unbelievable. American political ways are frightening."

AMERICAN prestige suffered a blow, as many felt what a Japanese man voiced, "America is no longer a democratic nation."

This latest act of violence was excellent material for the gristmill of communist propaganda. Radio Hanoi reported the shooting and commented, "This is to show the dirty face and tactics of U.S. politicians who will not hesitate to spill blood to even the score." The official Kremlin newspaper, Izvestia, charged that "the cult of violence, and the glorifiers of violence make up one of the basic foundations of the American way of life."

THE ARABS also found food for comment, as many newspapers said that Kennedy paid for his pro-Israel policy. The Arab world worried about anti-Arab whiplash and the possibility of Zionist plots.

The man seen as the latest victim of America's affair with violence evoked world wide admiration; his death brought tears and disbelief to the man on the street in every nation. In Rome, newspaper headlines read only, "He is dead." In Japan, many wept on the streets, recalling "Kennedy-san's" visit to their country six years ago.

IN THE WEST German capital of Bonn, flags were at half mast as a "visible demonstration of the Bonn population's anger over the political murder and their sympathy for the sorrow of the relatives and the American people," said the city's mayor.

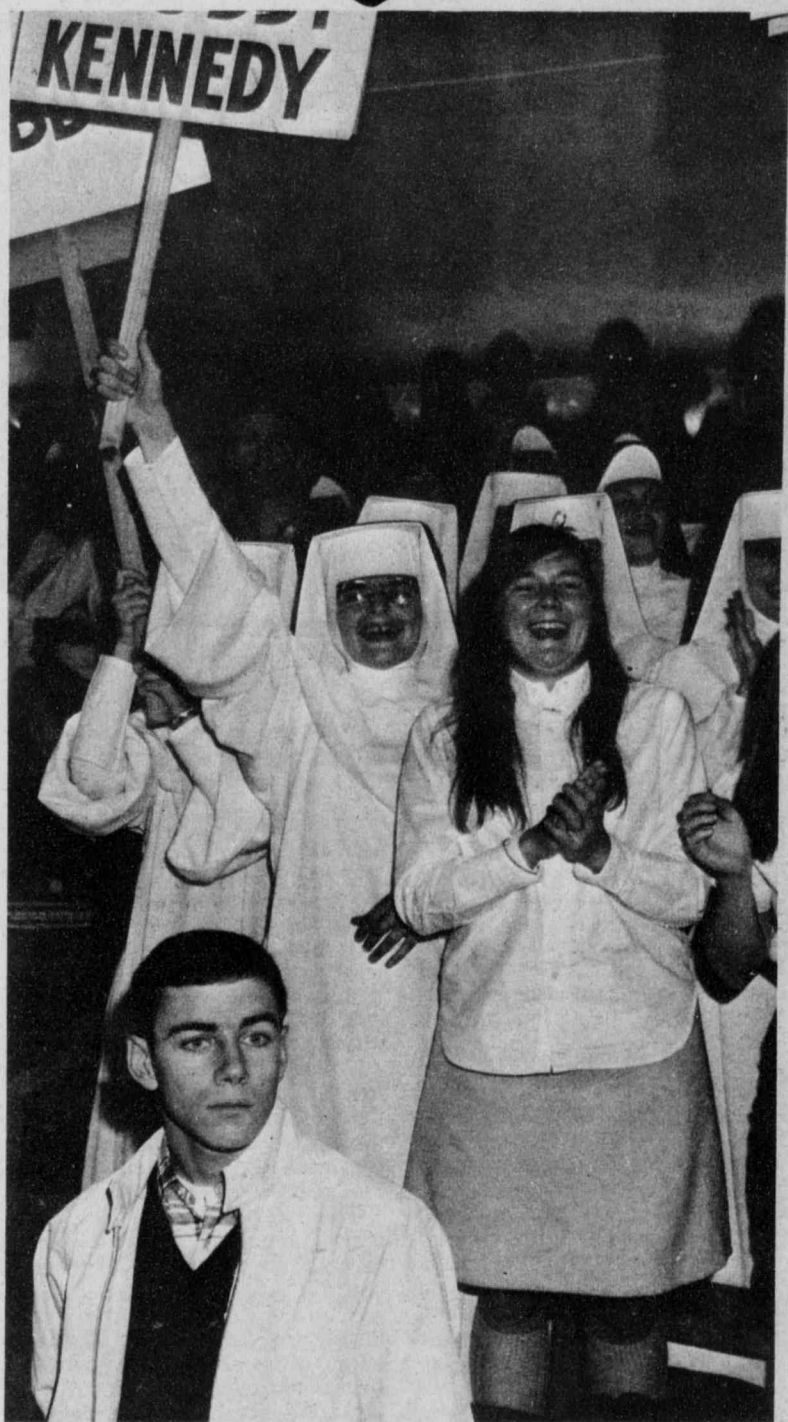
Kennedy found high praise in Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, who said, "A man of great energy and high idealism has been struck down in the prime of life and on the threshold of a bright new phase in his career." But she cautioned, "Each violent act strikes a blow at the very foundations of democracy and civilization."

"FRANCE shares the pain of a family so cruelly stricken," said French President Charles De Gaulle in a cable to Mrs. Robert Kennedy.

Pope Paul VI cabled Mrs. Kennedy, "Assuring you of our profound sympathy with your tragic bereavement, we offer heartfelt prayers for the repose of the soul of your beloved husband."

As a Russian wept openly in his Moscow office, as children fell to their knees in prayer in Irish classrooms, as Danes placed flowers outside the American embassy, Americans far from their home shared in the grief, and the dread of the world to come.

Soldiers in Vietnam heard the news on their pocket-sized transistor radios. A private said, "I feel sick, dead sick." Yet he, too, worried about the health of the nation for which he is fighting. "I'm supposed to go home in 10 days. Now I just don't look forward to seeing the States as much as I have in the past 16 months."



Leaders Mourn RFK

it doesn't matter—

It is no longer important whether or not we agreed with Senator Kennedy's political views . . . only that he dedicated his life to the service of our country. He was involuntarily a martyr to the cause of national selfreflection. Just as the death of Martin Luther King prompted immediate progressive action in the area of civil rights, so also will Robert Kennedy's death aid us in realizing the inadequacies of our system in the control of violence. But to control is not enough we have to stop breeding minds in an environment so related to crime and disorder. It is extremely unfortunate that such a fantastic man as Senator Kennedy must give his life to accomplish the goals he was working for.

Larry Inman
ASSU President

tragic irony

How ironic and tragic it is that three great and noble Americans, John Fitzgerald Kennedy, Martin Luther King and Robert Francis Kennedy should be struck down in such a violent manner! These three men gave of their talents and energies to help their fellow country men rid their minds and hearts of prejudice, hate, and violence.

Yet, the very thing against which they felt the deepest was the cause of their deaths. Will America learn this lesson? Can America and all Americans rid themselves of this cancerous condition?

ANOTHER parallel strikes me

so vividly. These three men were men of great faith and belief, each in his own way. God was important to all of them and God played a strong role in their lives. Our beloved nation must begin to realize deeply and profoundly that our sickness cannot be cured or healed if we leave God out of our national life and heritage.

Three times now, our nation has suffered sorrow and anguish. Each time we have said that our consciences and hearts will be cleansed by this tragedy. Let us hope and pray that these men have not died in vain.

Fr. William Le Roux, S.J.

whither America

Living during an era constantly plagued by violence, uncertainty, and bewilderment, the youthful citizens of this country demand an answer to this challenging question.

Many of us believe that the men who fired the shots that snuffed out the lives of President John F. Kennedy, Dr. Martin Luther King, and even more recently Senator Robert F. Kennedy are but merely the personifications of the actual moral and spiritual condition of our nation.

BECAUSE OF apathy, selective enforcement of the law, and permissiveness, we have allowed ourselves to become socialized to accept violence and lawlessness as part of our culture. We seem in many instances to deliberately ignore the words of one Edmund Burke who said, "All that is necessary for the forces of evil to win in the world is for good men to do nothing."

Perhaps Paul Revere, the midnight rider, should have been born in our time to awake and alert us to the fact that this nation is in peril.

More than ever before in the history of this nation and, even the history of the world, we should listen seriously to the pulse of the country and somehow find the strength, the courage, and most of all the will to "bind up and heal" the wounds of this nation.

THIS IS to say that history has thrust upon our generation an indescribably important destiny—to complete a process of democratization which our nation has too long developed too slowly, which is our most powerful weapon for world respect and emulation.

How we deal with this crucial situation will determine our moral health as individuals, our cultural health as a region, our political health as individuals and as a nation, and our prestige as a leader of the free world. Yes, I firmly believe that the future of America is bound up with the solution of the present crisis.

Therefore the youth of this nation asks this question to parents, community, state and national leaders, and adults everywhere;

"Which way America? Which way America? This is our country, too, and we want to know."

If the older generation lacks the wisdom, courage, and know-how, there are many of us who would like to join together in a biracial army to cast out many of the ancient enemies of the human experience.

Fred Barnes